

A. Franklin,
Wool Press,

No 66,824,

Patented July 16, 1867.

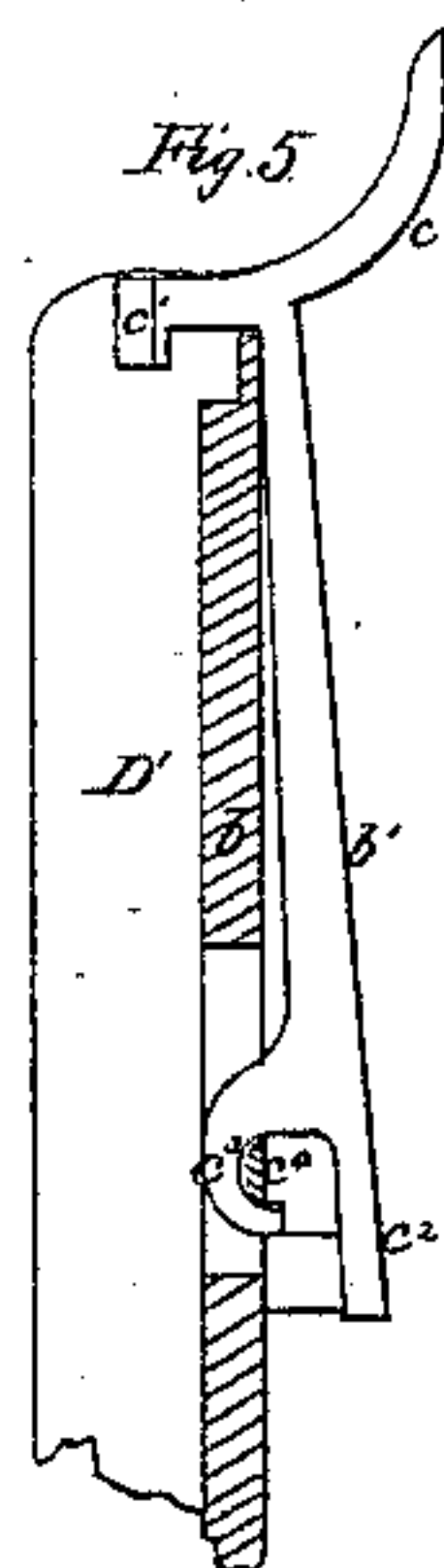
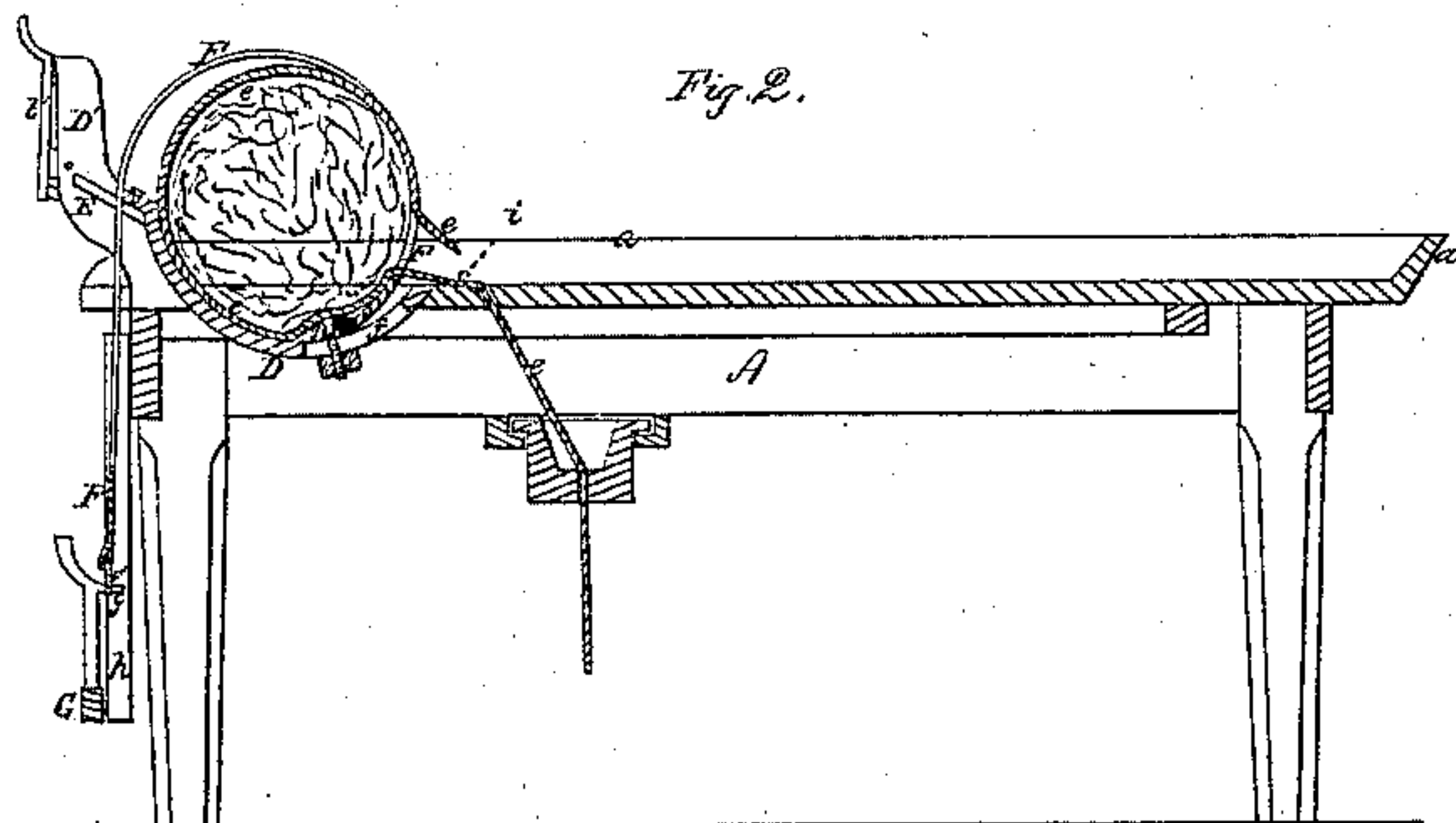
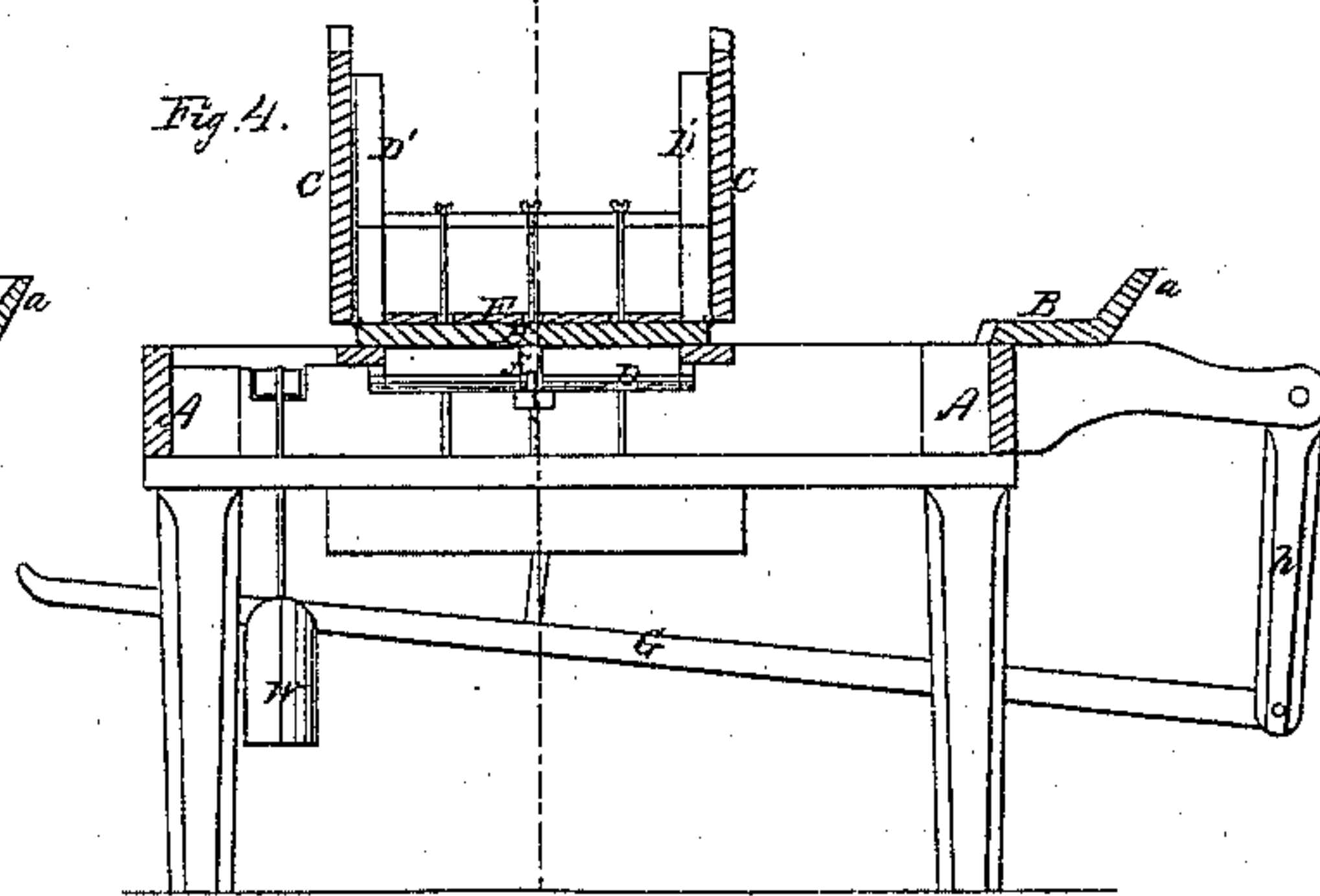
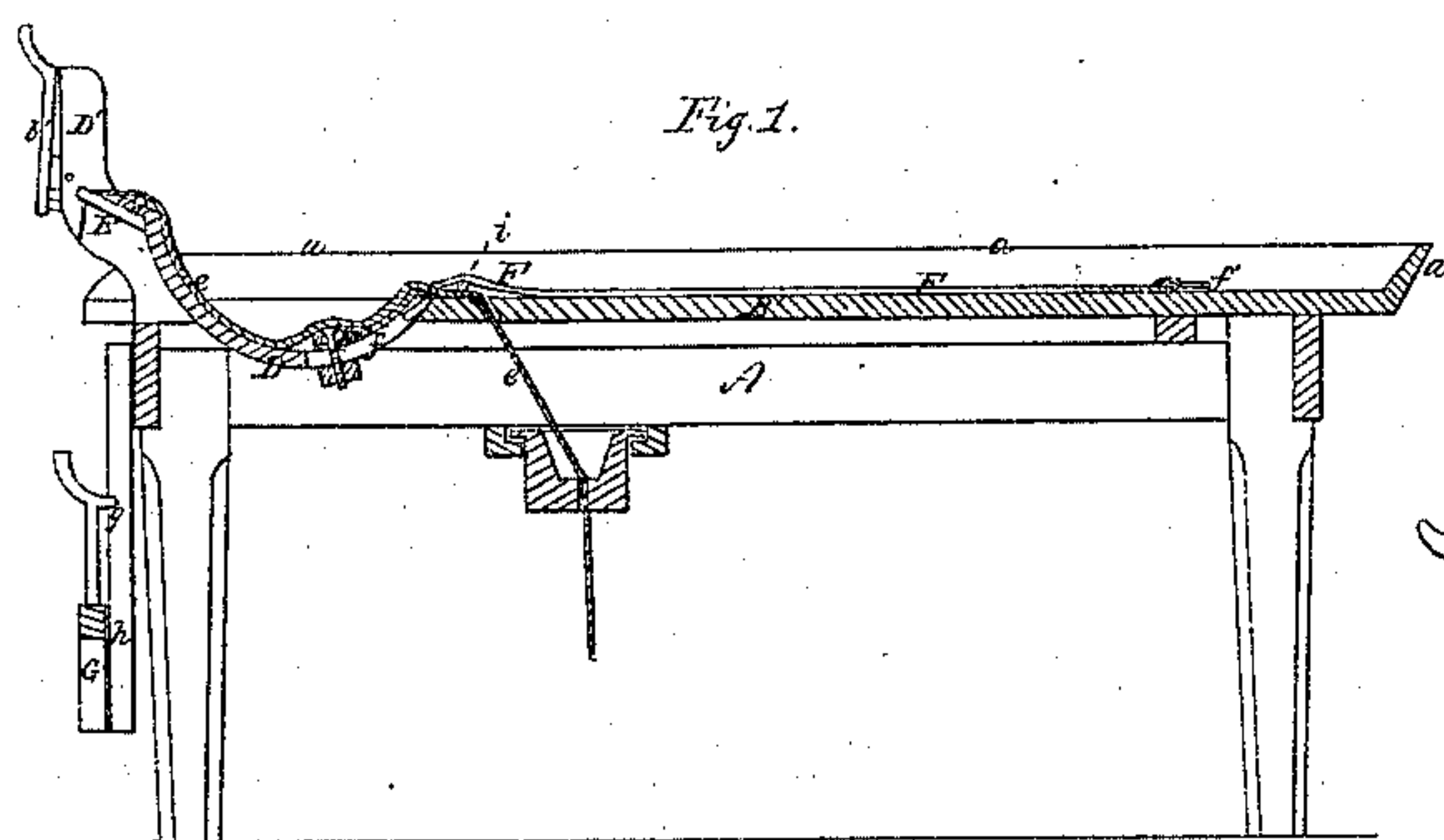
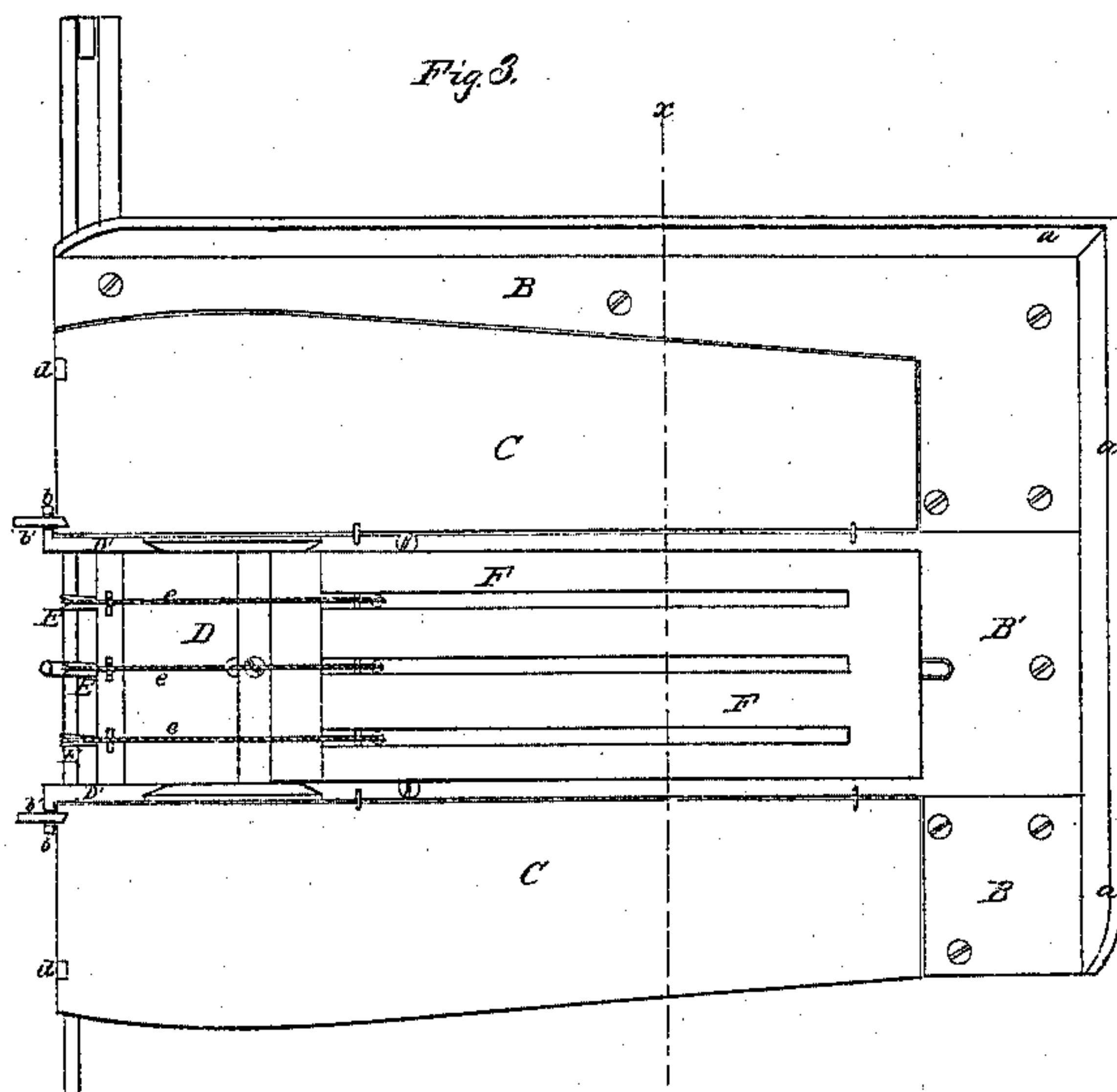
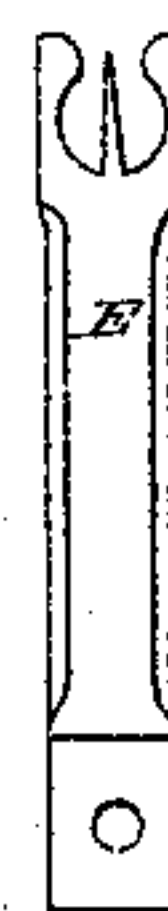


Fig. 6.



Witnesses

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United States Patent Office.

ALVIN FRANKLIN, OF GALENA, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 66,824, dated July 16, 1867.

WOOL-PACKING TABLE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ALVIN FRANKLIN, of Galena, in the county of Delaware, State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wool-Packing Tables; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section taken in a vertical plane through the centre of the table.

Figure 2 is a similar view, showing the same parts in proper position for tying a bundle of wool.

Figure 3 is a top view of the table ready for receiving the wool.

Figure 4 is a transverse section taken in the vertical plane indicated by red line *x x* in fig. 3.

Figure 5 is an enlarged view of one of the spring-latches for holding up one of the hinged side-pieces or leaves of the table.

Figure 6 is an enlarged view of one of the devices for holding the cords.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

This invention relates to certain novel improvements of contrivances which are designed for facilitating the binding of wool in compact bundles for transportation. Hitherto wool has been compressed and bound into bundles by spreading the fleece upon a flexible slitted apron which is laid upon a table, and then forcibly drawing the apron around the wool, so as to compress and hold it during the operation of binding. A windlass has been employed in conjunction with said apron for drawing it tightly around the bundle of wool; and hinged side-boards have been used for lapping over and holding the fleece while being compressed and bound.

The nature of my invention and improvement consists in the employment, at one end of a suitable table, of a concave bed, which is so applied as to extend below the plane of the table, and to serve, in conjunction with a flexible slitted apron, for facilitating the compressing and holding of the wool, as will be hereinafter described.

It also consists in attaching one end of the slitted compressing-apron to an adjustable bar, which is applied to that portion of the concave which extends beneath the bed of the table for the purpose of increasing or diminishing the capacity of the apron for compressing bundles of different sizes, as will be hereinafter described.

It also consists in the use of an elastic cord for the purpose of holding the balling-cords down in place during the compressing operation, as will be hereinafter explained.

It also consists in the use of three-pronged needles or holders for receiving and holding the free ends of the balling-cords during the compressing operation, as will be hereinafter described.

It also consists in the application of spring-latches to the sides of the elevated portion of the concave in conjunction with laterally-compressing hinged side-boards, for the purpose of holding the latter up during the operation of compressing a bundle, as will be hereinafter explained.

It also consists in a treadle having a swinging fulcrum, in conjunction with a flexible compressing-apron, said treadle being provided with means of attaching the apron to it, so that by depressing one end of the treadle the apron can be drawn squarely about a bundle of wool and held during the act of binding the bundle so compressed, as will be hereinafter described.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand my invention, I will describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the frame of a table which is adapted for supporting the contrivances for compressing and binding wool in bundles. B represents a portion of the top or bed of the table, which is secured firmly to the frame A, and provided with an elevated railing or ledge, *a*, extending along the back and right-hand edges of said top, for the purpose of preventing the wool from falling off. B' represents a longitudinal apron-bed, which is made of suitable length and width, and which has two leaves, C C, hinged to its sides, as shown in figs. 3 and 4, for a purpose hereinafter to be described. The stationary boards B and B', and the hinged boards or leaves C C, are all in the same horizontal plane, as shown in fig. 3. One end of the apron-bed B' terminates in a concave bed, D, a portion of which extends below the plane of the table-bed, and a portion extends above this bed, as shown in figs. 1 and 2. This concave bed D is designed to form a holder for, and to accommodate itself to, the form of the bundles of wool during the act of compressing them, as indi-

eated in fig. 2. On each side of that portion of the concave bed D which projects above the plane of the table-bed, a standard, D', is secured, the upper portion of which extends backward, and has a ledge, b, secured on its outer side, to which a spring-latch, b', is pivoted. Both latches are constructed and applied to the side standards D' alike, and they serve to catch and hold the hinged side-boards or leaves C C when thrown up in positions perpendicular to the apron-bed B', as shown in fig. 4. The form and construction of the latches b' will be understood by reference to fig. 5. Each latch consists of a straight shank, terminating at its upper end in a curved thumb-piece, c, and hooked holding-piece, c', and at its lower end in a tang, c², and hook, c³, the former having a piece of India rubber, or other suitable spring, applied to it, and the latter working over a pin, c⁴, which crosses a slot that is made through the ledge b. When the side-boards are thrown up to the position shown in fig. 4 the hooks c' will spring over the bevelled edges d d on the ends of these boards and firmly hold them in place. Between the standards b' b' bifurcated cord-holders E are secured to the upper overhanging edge of the concave bed D, by means of set-screws passing through transverse slots shown in fig. 3. These holders are constructed with central spikes, on each side of which are curved teeth, as shown in fig. 6, for the purpose of holding the baling-cords firmly at their free ends during the operation of compressing the wool. The drawings represent three of these cord-holders applied to the concave for receiving three baling-cords, e e e, but any required number may be adopted, according to the number of cords which it is desired to use. One end of a slitted apron, F, is secured to a bar, F', and this bar is secured to that portion of the concave bed D which extends below the table top, by means of a set-screw passing through a longitudinal slot, f, which is made through said bed. The apron is made equal, or nearly so, to the width of the beds B' and D, and it is slitted longitudinally, so as to receive through it the cords e and cord-holders E, and to allow it to be brought over a bundle of wool, as shown in fig. 2. The free end of the apron has a rod secured to it, in the middle of the length of which is a loop, f'. This slitted apron F is secured to the concave bed D by means of a set-screw passing through an oblong slot, as described, for the purpose of increasing or diminishing the capacity of the apparatus for receiving and compressing a greater or less quantity of wool, as circumstances require. To increase or diminish the capacity of the apron and concave bed, it is only necessary to adjust the bar F'.

The apron F is drawn out smoothly upon its bed B', and a proper quantity of wool spread upon it to form a bale. The side-boards C C are then thrown up and latched in the position shown in fig. 4, so as to condense the wool laterally and determine the length of the bale. The operator then draws the free end of the apron over the wool and attaches the loop f' to a hook, g, which is upon a lever or treadle, g. This treadle being depressed, will draw down the apron and compress the wool into a small, compact bundle, ready for binding. The treadle or lever G is arranged at one end of the table, so as to move up and down in a vertical plane, and it is pivoted at one end to a vibrating arm or pendant, h, which is pivoted to a bracket projecting from the table, as shown in fig. 4. The free end of the lever G is sustained by means of a weight, W, to which a cord is attached, which cord is passed over a pulley on the table-frame, so that when the foot or hand, as the case may be, is removed from the lever, said weight will raise it to a position for attaching the apron to it, as above described.

The object of having a swinging or movable fulcrum for the lever G is to allow of the apron being drawn downward squarely. If the fulcrum were stationary the hook g on this lever G would describe the arc of a circle, and thus draw the apron to one side, but by having the fulcrum movable the apron can be drawn down in a straight line.

The cords e e e pass up through holes which are made through the apron-bed B', near the end thereof, and thence through the slits in the apron, and are attached to the bifurcated holding devices E, as before described. The cords may be unwound from balls or spools, arranged beneath the table-bed, in the usual well-known manner. In order to keep the cords down in place at and near those points where they pass up through the open bed, I employ an elastic strip, i, which is stretched across the cords and secured at its ends to the apron-bed.

After the apron has been drawn firmly over the wool by depressing the lever G, as above set forth, the operator detaches the ends of the cords e from their holders E, draws these ends over the compressed fleece, and fastens them around the bale or bundle. The bundle is then severed from the table, and the cords e drawn across the concave and fastened to the holding devices, as before.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The concave bed D applied at one end of the apron-bed B', and extending below the plane of this bed, substantially as described.
2. Attaching one-end of the slitted apron F to an adjustable bar F' applied to the concave bed D, substantially as and for the purposes described.
3. The elastic strap i, as applied over the baling-cords e, substantially as and for the purpose described.
4. The combination of the three-pronged cord-holders E with the concave bed D, substantially as described.
5. The application of spring-latches b' to the sides of the elevated portion of the concave bed D, substantially as described.
6. The combination of the lever G, swinging-arm h, hook g, and apron F, substantially as described.

ALVIN FRANKLIN.

Witnesses:

WM. S. GLASS,
ALBERT FRANKLIN.